Plays and Players

ENGLISH'S GRAND PARK

fering of the current week at English's trouble. Opera House and will be presented twice, to-morrow and Tuesday nights. The piece is a farce of sentimental proclivities and its possession of popular elements is demonstrated by the long and successful run which it enjoyed at the Madison-square Frohman declares it to be the funniest work of Mr. Gillette's. Notwithstanding its episode should prove so popular. They necesarily exaggerated situations, there is then realized that Mr. Thomas's play was delicate quality of humor that has caused of it the better they liked it. Taking a it to be styled "The Little Minister of charming section of Alabama for his lo-Farce." The sentiment that pervades it is cality and the period just following the inviting and exquisite. Indeed, it may close of the civil war for his time, Mr. be said that "Because She Loved Him So" | Thomas evolved a play that cannot fail is a pretty love story with appropriate to always be a delight whenever and ture of this story is that it is pleasing alike be well played and properly staged. to old and young.

The story of the comedy is of a young couple, Gertrude and Oliver West, who possess everything in life that could render them happy, and they would be perfectly happy if it were not for Gertrude's which renders their existence miserable. Oliver cannot leave her for an hour but she is tormented with doubts and suspiclons as to the reason for his absence; while it is her usual practice to search his pockets and read his letters surreptitiously to discover proofs of his supposed guilt. Her efforts prove vain until one evening hairs on his coat. These, it may be mentioned, were placed there by an artful little maid servant who is anxious to obtain too well. Gertrude hotly declares her intention of seeking the parental roof at once and afterwards securing a divorce. Oliver follows her thither, determined to to have been provoked to a deadly quarrel. Success crowns their endeavors to a certain point. A beautiful bit of sentiment is introduced into the piece at the close of the second act, when, after a heated wrangle that almost ends in a scrimmage, the loving old couple steal back through the darkened room to indulge in a stealthy embrace. Unluckily, old Mr. Weatherby had at one time in his career been moved to express in rather too marked a form his sympathy for a dashing Spanish lady, and this fact being reveaed to his wife, the comedy threatens to turn into tragedy. Satisfactory explanations are, however, made, Gertrude's eyes are at length opened to the enormity of her conduct, and she premises never to offend again, which brings the farce to a satisfactory conclu-

Mr. Frohman has provided an exceptionally strong cast for the interpretation of "Because She Loved Him So." It includes J. E. Dodson and Miss Annie Irish, the great character actors; Kate Meek, Eleanor Braham, Tully Marshall, W. J. Constantine, Charles Eldridge, Roy Fairchild, Margaret Fielding, Marion Fairfax, Margaret Mayo, Frances Comstock and others. The entire original production comes here, and the company is the same in all respects that won the first great triumph for the play.

Alice Neilsen Friday.

No comic opera star that comes to English's has a larger or more enthusiastic following than Alice Neilsen, who is the embodiment of all that is dainty and pretty in feminine charms, besides being the possessor of a voice that rivals a bird's for sweetness. Miss Neilsen is coming to English's Opera House Friday and Saturday of the present week at the head of her fine company, which scored such a triumph at that house last season, playing a return engagement only a few weeks after its first appearance. The little cantatrice has arranged matters so that all of her Indianapolts admirers will be satisfied with her engagement. Friday night and Saturday afternoon she will give her latest comic opera, "The Singing Girl," and Saturday night will revive last season's great suc-

cess, "The Fortune Teller." "The Singing Girl" is from the pens of Victor Herbert, Harry B. Smith and Stanislas Strange, a combination that would have done many good things together, notably "The Fortune Teller," "The Serenade" and "The Wizard of the Nile," but "The Singing Girl" introduces a new element into their work and one fraught with much curiosity as well as large promise. Harry Smith is ecknowledged one of our best writers of lyrics, but, despite his admirable books in "The Fencing Master" and "Robin Hood." many believe him inferior to Stanislas Strange as a librettist, pure and simple. Thus it came about that Frank Perley, the astute manager of Alice Neilsen, introduced this third highly specialized maker of operas into the construction of "The Singing Girl." Though this is the first work done by the three men in conjunction and the effort of each is clearly defined, utmost harmony is said to have prevailed and the very best results Victor Herbert has, of course, composed all the music, Smith has furnished the lyrics and Strange has written the story, constructed the situations and supplied the lines. "The Singing Girl" is said to be above the grade of what has long been accepted as comic opera and to more nearly approximate the standard of "opera comique" as the term is understood in England and on the continent. In theme it is romantic, but the background and sent constant comedy of a sort highly humorous throughout and always refined. In each of her operas Miss Neilsen will appear in her original character and will be supported by her entire cast, which is said to be even stronger than last season. It includes Eugene Cowles, Lucille Saunders, Jennie Hawley, Richie Ling, Joseph Herbert, John Slavin, Joseph Cawthorn, E. S. Metcalfe, Albert McGuckin and a chorus of nearly one hundred voices. Every de tail of the original productions of "The Singing Girl" and "The Fortune Teller" is promised for the Indianapolis engage-

A Persistent Correspondent.

Down in Syosett, Long island, there is a man who apparently is a great admirer of Monsieur De Bardy, the Frenchman whom Louis Mann impersonates in "A Girl in the Barracks." He has never seen Mr. Mann he marveled at. Within a year of a different subject. First he wrote to inquire if the actor wanted to buy a small farm on the north shore of Long island. Mann replied that he did not. Then the man wrote to find out if he could enlist Mr. Mann's services in securing a patent on an air pump which he had invented after many sleepless nights and much worry. About two weeks ago Monsieur Le Bardy (Mr. Mann's stage name) received a polite note from his indefatigable correspondent which read: "I have a considerable amount of Confederate money which my father jeft me on his dying bed, which I cannot seer to get rid of in Syosett, as no one will accept it at anything like par. Now, are traveling about more than me, tantly meeting people, and consequently you have a better opportunity to unoad this rtuff, which I am told is good in

William Gillette's new farce, "Because | which is to own a bicycle. The roads around here are in fine shape for wheeling. Deduct a reasonable commission for your

EMPIRE

"ALABAMA"

Will Be Seen at the Grand Opera House All of This Week.

"Alabama" as it will be played by the Theater, New York, last season. Charles | stock company at the Grand this week will be found an innovation. Wnen successful farce he has ever Augustus Thomas wrote and produced this handled. It has all the brightness and play the critics were surprised that a story cleverness that might be expected in a so quietly told and with so little dramatic a refined tone in the whole thing and a of a new school, and the more they saw farcical embellishments, and the best fea- wherever produced, provided, of course, it

These two items have been attended to, for the cast at the Grand this week will be found unusually strong and the scenic display more beautiful than ever. The importation of all the scenery and effects used in the big revival of "Alabama" at Cincinnati recently will tend to surround uncontrolable jealousy-totally unfounded- | the play next week with more lavish | ries of tricks in a wire cage that occupies framework than it would ordinarily have. | the full space of the stage. The three stage effects, as well as what is known as | mimists. They also perform some remark-Tucker and Colonel Preston are rarely presented by Falke and Semon, two Amerismoothly enough until the march of course of a ventriloquial act, is another she finds him, on his return from an alleged | progress sent a railroad that way, and drawing card. Wills and Lorette convisit to his club, reeking with the scent then all was excitement. The residents tribute their laughable "Tramp and Sou- smoking room of the Players' Club one of "New Mown Hay" and with two golden others not. Colonel Preston opposed it because it brought the North nearer the tion. Comedy acrobatics and sensational a "night off." The design succeeds only it would, he said, scare the frogs out of ing and turning somersaults. In the guise the bayou and thus deprive him of of a lady of quality Anna Kenwick will the railroad, but was was for

fortunate enough to have her property ern darkey. There will be the usual daily give his version of the unfortunate affair. | crossed by the line so that he might pro- | matinees. The two old people, who have never had pose. Captain Davenport at the head of the an unpleasant word, have been apprised railroad, a Northerner by choice, though by a friend of their daughter's coming a Southerner by birth, comes to this section and also of her errand, and decide that, as | of the country to look after the interests a means of showing how contemptible and of his line and incidentally to renew old foolish a thing jealousy is, they will feign | family ties which had been severed by his siding with the Union. He was a widower and his daughter, now a young woman, was living with her grandfather, Colonel Preston. The two men had not spoken for many years owing to the captain's marriage and afterwards his alliance with the North. Davenport had changed his name purposely when he entered the service of the Union and the development of the love affairs are prominent throughout the four acts of the play. There is a soft Southern haze around "Alabama." It is most picturesque production yet seen at the Grand. The broad speech of the south is heard almost in every character, and there is a charm about it that will take possession of the audience from the first rise of the curtain.

Miss Shannon's return to the cast as Carey Preston will be a pleasing event. The Grand's leading woman has a strong hold upon the affections of patrons and in the sympathetic part of the Southern girl this week Miss Shannon will be seen to admirable advantage. Mr. Macy will appear as Colonel Moberly, Mr. Mayall of Cincinnati, as Captain Davenport, Mr. Sheldon as Squire Tucker, Mr. Talbot as Colonel Preston, Mr. Reynolds as Mr. Armstrong, Mr. Kramer as Raymond Stockton, Miss Le Verne as Mrs. Page and Miss Rand as Atlanta Moberly.

ELKS' MINSTRELS.

Rehearsals Are in Progress for the Annual Entertainment.

Rehearsals of the Elks' Minstrels are numerous now. The twentieth annual minstrel show, which is a distinctive feature in the theatrical season wherever Elks' lodges exist, will take place here at English's Opera House March 9 and 10. The lodge this year will give three performances; one on Friday night, and one on Saturday afternoon and one Saturday evening. The success of these entertainments in the past has led to a departure from the usual "one night stand" to a longer period.

The minstrel shows given by the Elks everywhere are for the benefit of the charity fund. It is a precept of the order that its charitable work must be personal ast have contributed not only to the relief of members but have been widely distributed wherever there was need. The entertainment this year will take new form. The usually rigid construction of a minstrel first part will give way to a minstrel show with a plantation scene. The interlocutor will preserve his dignity, but will not, as in the past, sit in the center of a semi-circle. He will be free to take any position he chooses on the stage. The interlocutor will be Samuel V. Perrott. exalted ruler of the local 1 dge. The end men announced are M. L. Jefferson, Fred Shepherd and Bert Feibleman, on the bones end, and "Billy" Kleis, Charles Balz and James F. Quigley on the tambo end. This sextet is equipped with modern, healthy ickes. A number of them will sing new coon songs. Another feature of the entertainment will be the appearance of the Elks' Quartet, composed of Dr. D. H. Oliver, R. L. Paddock, jr., Blake Stone and Russell Powell. Vocal numbers will also be sung by O. W. Williams, Russell Powell, Thomas Clay Gould, Stanton Wilhite, Miss Nona McCormick, Miss Anna Dietrich of Noblesville, Miss Sophie C. Bradford, Miss May Falk and Miss Valentine Goode. "Little Friday" will also give several dances. Miss Dietrich and Miss Goode will sing black face songs in character. There is also a chorus of thirty voices which will assist in the entertainment. A burletta is also in rehearsal. The music of the entertainment is in charge of Sam Cooley, assisted by Barclay Walker.

Louis Mann and Clara Lipman. Thursday night Louis Mann and Clara Lipman will come to English's Opera House with the very latest New York success, "The Girl in the Barracks." These comedy stars are too well known by local teatergoers to need an introduction at this time, and their previous offerings are ample guaranty that their new musical comedy, coming as it does from a highly successful run in the metropolis and the larger cities of the East, is something above the ordinary. Their tour this season is under the direction Rich & Harris, who have a well-earned reputation for dealing in nothing but the highest class of amusements, and in "The Girl in the Barracks" they are said to have provided a most appropriate vehicle for the display of the versatile talents of both Mr. Mann and Miss Lipman. The comedy is a translation from the German of Curt Kraatz and Heinrich Stobitzer and was presented its original form at the Irving-place Theater, New York, during the run of the English version at the Garrick and Madicon-square Theaters. The piece in its English form could easily have run up to and even beyond the holidays, but owing to previous contracts they were obliged to take to the road.'

Louis Mann and Clara Lipman were at Linglish's last season and presented "The Telephone Girl" to crowded houses at two performances. Previous to that they enload this rtuff, which I am told is good in acted the leading parts in "The Girl from certain parts of the country for nearly its Paris," at which all New York laughed for face value, I will send you a hundred doliars in the hope that you may get enough
tegular money out of it to enable me to
realize one of my cherished ambitions,

The Philharmonic Club, under the direction to New York to rest from the hope that you may get enough to of a Parisian millionaire who is not averse
to enjoying himself, while Miss Lipman

William H. Crane has been coming to to New York to rest from the parameter of the properties of a Parisian millionaire who is not averse
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William H. Crane has been coming to over two years of practically continuous stock work in Buffalo. Syracuse, Rochestor of a Parisian millionaire who is not averse
to enjoying himself, while Miss Lipman

The Philharmonic Club, under the direction of a Whole season. In "The Girl in the season. In "The Chirch the parameter of the parameter of the parising that the parising that the parameter of the parising that the parising the parising

thousand francs, to be donated to charit- in the East early in the present season. able purposes, that she can spend twentyfour hours in the barracks of a small garrison near Paris. This she does by disguising herself as a recruit and reporting for duty. Endless complications result, but at the end she discloses her sex, obtains her release and wins her wager.

Mr. Mann and Miss Lipman are supported by a host of prominent farceurs, among whom are Joseph Coyne, George W. Barnum, Ben T. Dillon, Leighton Leigh, Thornton Cole, Bert Flansburg, Helen Harrington, Vivian Edsall, Beatrice Bonner, Mary Post, Amy Lesser and Mabel

The engagement is for a single night.

Hopkins's Transoceanics at Park. Whenever Manager Fred Dickson books one of Robert Fulgora's vaudeville shows for the Park Theater he makes the engagement for an entire week, since past experience has demonstrated the wisdom of such a course. Fulgora's American and European Stars played a highly successful week at the Park some time ago, and this week the same house is to be occupied by the company designated as Hopkins's Transoceanics, under Mr. Fulgora's direction, and said to be fully equal to its excellent predecessor. Hopkins's Transoceanics have favorites with Park audiences, but it is claimed that this year they are better than ever. Mr. Fulgora asserts that he has scoured the specialty theaters of America and Europe in an effort to secure the best artists of the vaudeville world. A representative European novelty is Mile. Marzella and her large family of trained cockatoos, parrots, ravens and macaws, which she puts through a bewildering se-It depends so much for success upon the Quitanos also hail from Europe, and reprecolor given it both by the people and the | sent the most entertaining type of panto-"atmosphere," that the story really plays able and amusing acrobatic work. An act A pretty story is related about the way a secondary part in the production. Such that combines great musical ability and Gus Thomas happened to write "Alacharacter types as Colonel Moberly, 'Squire | versatility with bright comedy, will be met with on the stage. Life in this little | can specialty artists. A. O. Duncan, who portion of Alabama had gone along manipulates four dummy figures, in the pany will produce to-morrow night and the South, and he was an uncompromising | feats on a slack wire will be introduced by supporter of the "lost cause." 'Squire William and Ida Morello, while their trick the playwright. He was not sleeping, how-Tucker was against the railroad because | dogs will give an exhibition of bag punchluxury. Colonel Moberly surprise her auditors with her singing of anxious to find out which widow would be | would reflect credit upon a genuine South-

Double Bill at Empire.

A double bill is announced for the Empire Theater this week. The time will be divided between the Tammany Tigers and "A Social Maid" Company. The former organization is one of Gus Hill's novelties, and will be here the first three days of the week, beginning with a matinee to-morrow. Combining vaudeville, extravaganza, burlesque and farce, the Tammany Tigers story of the play is constantly toward the present a varied assortment of novel feahoped-for reconciliation. Several charming | tures tending to please any and all tastes. There are two burlesques, the first of which is a travesty on Mrs. Leslie Carof the South, purely, and undoubtedly the | ter's triumph, "Zaza." The satire is entitled "Sassy," and it is said to be full of fun. May Adams essays the role of Sassy. while Harry Emerson's Jaberowski is said to be a creditable bit of comedy work. The closing burlesque is called "The King of the Hobo Ring." Between the burlesques will be introduced a number of up-to-date specialties. Among them are Mile. Paula, conqueror of Saurians, with her troupe of alligators: Kittle Bingham, who is said to be a charming vocal star; Hines and Alton, expert acrobats; Kelly and Adams, sketch artists; Valmore and Dane, vocalists and dancers: Emerson and Omaega, in an original and laughable sketch, and J. W. Bingham in a sensational act of ventriloquism. Beginning with a matinee on Thursday a burlesque organization under the management of Hurtig & Semons, entitled "A Social Maid," will be the attraction at the Empire. It is claimed that the management has spared no expense to make this company a leader in the burlesque field. Among the performers are the Clark Sisters, presenting an act of novelty and surprise; Johnson, Davenport and Lorella, presenting "The Football Players and the Farmer;" George E. Beban, in his own specialty of topical comedy: Bison City Quartet, Nina Col..ns and Joe and Nellie Doner. The Social Maid Company will introduce what are claimed to be two sensations of the season, the "Bowery Charmion" in a pantomime on the wire and the "Naughty Anthony Dance," executed by twelve young women. The olio will be followed by a one-act musical farce-comedy in which Maud Clark, the Social Maid, appears as a sporty young American girl who succeeds in breaking the bank at Monte Carlo. There will be daily matinees.

Fortunes in Farces.

Great fortunes have been made in funny plays. This statement may sound strange here in Indianapolis, where comedies and farces meet with cool receptions almost inseem hard to beat. Herbert and Smith and unostentatious. The proceeds in the variably, but it is nevertheless true. Charles Frohman is the manager who has made the most of these large sums of money. He enjoyed two profitable years with "All the Comforts of Home," which has been given in this city both by road companies and the local stock organization. Then followed "Mr. Wilkinson's Widows" and the comedies in which John Drew starred, all of which were successful. "Charlie's Aunt" was Mr. Frohman's first phenomenal farce hit. It followed that queen of comedies, "Jane," which ran several years. "Charlie's Aunt" crowded one New York playhouse for an entire season and put nearly \$100,000 into the Frohman treasury. Recent advices from London state that it is to be revived soon the English metropolis. "Too Much Johnson," by William Gillette, filled the Standard Theater for a season and added almost another \$100,000 to Mr. Frohman's bank account. Other big hits Mr. Frohman has made are "The Gay Parisians," "On and Off," "The Foundling" and "The Thoroughbred."

Last season this lucky theatrical manager added two new mascots to his aiready extended list. These were "Lord and Lady Algy" and "Because She Loved

In the Light of the Home Houses. Next week the Grand stock company will be seen in the long-anticipated elaborate

revival of "Carmen," the play made from

Prosper Merrimee's great French story.

The last half of next week at the Park will be given over to minstrelsy, the purveyors of this agreeable commodity being Vogel and Deming's troupe of minstrels.

The scenery, costumes, music and mechanical effects with the Tammany Tigers combination is said to be finer than with any similar organization.

The sale of seats for William H. Crane's engagement in "A Rich Man's Son" and "A Virginia Courtship," Monday and Tuesday nights of next week, opens at English's Opera House Thursday morning.

Park Theater will resume its customary double bill next week. Beginning Monday afternoon the ever welcome Rays, Johnny and Emma, will for the first three days present their uproarious farce, "A Hot Old Time," with its array of excellent musical and terpsichorean specialties.

Kindergarten No. 4 will present the comedy drama, "Among the Breakers," at Lyra Hall, on South Meridian street, Tuesday evening of this week. The proceeds of the entertainment will be used as the nucleus of a fund for the construction of a ermanent home for the South Side Kinlergarten. Mayor Taggart has promised to purchase the building site.

occupies the congenial role of a music hall him. The eminent dispenser of merriment singer of the dashing type, who kicks conventionalities to the winds. At a dinner of next week with his new comedy, "A given in her honor by some of her numer- | Rich Man's Son," which drew large at dicus admirers she makes a wager of fifty | ences and received flattering press notices

Many members of the Grand stock company enjoy the favor of the public, but none in greater measure than Herman Sheldon, the clever character actor, whose The prospect of obtaining his photographs as souvenirs to-morrow evening gives assurunce of one of the largest crowds that "Alabama" ever drew to a theater in In-

A more happy finale to a week of brilliant theatrical events could scarcely be conceived than the annual big minstrel carnival of the local organization of Elks, which is announced for Friday and Saturday nights and a special Saturday matinee next week at English's Opera House. The entertainments given by the Elks in the past are a sufficient guaranty that this year's affair will be on a high plane of ex-

"Caste," a three-act comedy, will be produced by the St. Cecilia and Aloysius societies of Sacred Heart Church at St. Cecilia Hall this evening. The play is a satire on English society, and a satisfactory performance is assured. The committee on arrangements includes the names of been seen here before and were always the following well-known South Side citizens: John S. Ohleyer, Henry Raible, Charles G. Koesters, George Miller, George M. Scheerer and Mathew Schneider.

> Wednesday and Thursday nights of next week the patrons of English's Opera House will be afforded another opportunity of enjoying the delightful acting of James K. Hackett. This season he is having considerable success with a new play, "The Pride of Jennico," which he will present during his Indianapolis engagement. He may also revive his last year's favorite, "Rupert of Hentzau," with stately, beautiful Jobyna Howland as Flavia.

bama," his beautiful drama of the South after the war, which the Grand stock comrest of the week. He was sitting in the music seemed to have a soporific effect on ever, but merely buried in deep meditation. When McIntosh finished playing rather abruptly, Thomas cried out: "Hang it, man, what did you stop there for? I had them "coon" songs and by buck dancing that talking. The two of them, a young man and his sweetheart, were standing by an old gate down South, and at one side of it was lying, half buried, an old cannon that had been left there by the invading army. They were just beginning to talk when you stopped playing." Mr. Thomas described one of the prettiest scenes in "Alabama," which he completed soon after this

Rays from Distant Calciums. Lotta Linthecum has rejoined the "Royal

Box" company, which she left just before its Indianapolis engagement recently.

minnie Maddern Fiske will be the first American player of note to visit Germany since Edwin Booth.

tume comedy, is to be produced in New York this season by Daniel Frohman's company. Mildred Holland opens in Buffalo March 12 with her new play, "Aria, the Musician's

Daughter," after which she will be seen in the national capital. Mme. Marcella Sembrich, whose sweet voice was heard in "The Barber of Seville" at English's several weeks ago, is the

daughter of a peasant. A new opera by Ignace Ian Paderewski, the long-haired Polish planist, who is winning showers of dollars and smiles in America, will be produced in Dresden next

Under the titles of "Die Nebenbuehler" and "Die Laesterschule," Richard Brinsley Sheridan's "Rivals" and "School for Scandal" have long been stock pieces on the German stage.

William Goebel, who was killed recently in Kentucky, is said to have been a suitor for the hand of the beautiful Caroline Miskel before she went on the stage and became the wife of Playwright Charles

Among the effects of the late Felix since out of print. They will be disposed of at a dollar a copy to those who desire a memento of the distinguished actor.

New York newspapers are exploiting a she hails from Chicago and as yet plays a minor role, although displaying undoubted

Ernest von Schuch, musical director of the Royal Opera in Dresden, is coming to the United States for an engagement of twelve days under the direction of Maurice Grau. Arrangements are being made for a grand operatic performance which Herr von Schuch will conduct.

Certain Eastern vaudeville managers are entire season the services of leading "headliners" so as to prevent them from being engaged by the Western combination that recently appeared on the theatrical horizon. The plan is to have the specialty artists thus engaged appear at each one of twelve theaters controlled by the syndicate three times in the season of thirty-six

last issue boldly charges Charles Frohman with responsibility for the majority of indecent plays that are and have been produced in New York. It names a long list of Frohman productions claimed to be of a lewd character. Among these are: "The Foundling," "The Sporting Duchess," "The City of Pleasure," "Never Again," "The Proper Caper," "A Night Session," On and Off," "The Conquerors, "Za Za." "The Cockoo." "The Girl from Maxim's," "Make Way for Le Ladies," "The Degenerates," "The Surprises of Love" and "Coralie & Co's. Dressmakers."

A good story is told of the English playwrights Cumberland and Sheridan, author of a number of standard comedies. The latter wished to collect the opinions of acknowledged judges of dramatic merit on his "School for Scandal," and asked what Mr. Cumberland had said on the first night of its production. "Not a syllable," was the answer. "But did he seem amused?" "Why, faith," was the reply, "he might have been hung up beside Uncle Oliver's (Cromwell's) picture. He had the villainous, disinheriting countenance: like the ladies and gentlemen on the walls, he never moved a muscle." 'Devilish ungrateful that," remarked Sheridan, "for I sat out his tragedy last week, and laughed from beginning to end."

A recent number of the Dramatic Mir-J. Henry Kolker and the following explanatory note: "J. Henry Kolker, the subject of our illustration, closed season as leading man of the Grand stock mpany, Indianapolis, Feb. 17, having reigned from that organization. During the past twenty weeks Mr. Kolker's performances of the leads in "The Dancing Girl, 'The Crust of Society,' 'She Stoops to Conquer,' 'Men and Women,' 'The Nomnee, 'Captain Swift,' 'The Lady of Lyons,' 'The Two Orphans' and other plays have nade him a favorite in that city. Mr.

News and Gossip

will be given Friday evening.

Nell will be the soloists at the matinee musicale Wednesday afternoon.

Miss Lillie Adam has been engaged as soprano at the Meridian-street Church in | in organ work that will meet with favor. place of Miss Koonz, who has resigned on | The club's work will be on the popular oraccount of ill health.

An laborate programme has been prepared for the song service at the Tabernacle Church next Sunday evening, under the direction of Mr. Karl Schneider.

Mr. Rudolph Koster will play Schumann's "Traumerei" as a violin solo, accompanied by Miss Schirley Schumacker, for offertory at Meridian-street Church this morning.

Baker's "Biographical Dictionary of Musicians," being up to date and including all musicians of note, is an invaluable work just issued by G. Schirmer, New

The Philharmonic String Quartet is rehearsing Grieg's G minor quartet. It will be the principal number at the quartet's first concert, to be given the latter part of March.

A programme made up from the works of "Twentieth Century American Composers' will be given by the first division of the Ladies' Matinee Musicale Wednesday aft-

Edward MacDowall, one of America's leading composers and president of the Society of American Musicians and Composers, has resigned from that body owing to the lethargy of the directors.

The testimonial concert to be tendered to Prof. James S. Black, one of the music ploneers of this city, on Wednesday, March 14, at Tomlinson Hall, is deserving of the interest manifested by local musicians.

Ladies should remove their hats at musicales, recitals and concerts. The Propylaeum and German House auditoriums' floors are both flat, and many lame necks were the result of the chicken-squint necessary at the concerts last Monday and Tuesday evenings.

Elsa Ruegger, the eminent Swiss 'cellist, who is to be the soloist at the next symphony concert, was heard in New York last week, in a concert that included the Russian violinist, Petschnikoff, and the planist, Aime Lachaume, and easily shared honors with her brother artists.

Mrs. Paul A. Florian has been engaged to sing at St. David's Episcopal Church, corner of Twenty-first street and Talbott avenue. Mrs. Florian will be remembered as the Indianapolis girl, Jessie Oyler Jones, "The Queen of the Roses," a new coswho made her debut in Barclay Walker's "Mignon" twelve years ago. After leaving this city she sang in opera with different companies, including the Emma Juch Opera Company.

> Mascagni, whose "Isis" has been so mercilessly scored and condemned that only two out of Italy's fifty opera houses have it on their reportoire, has just completed another opera, "The Masks," to be produced in Rome in April, and has challenged the public and his critics by dedicating the score to its composer in these words: "To myself, with my distinguished consideration and highest esteeem." No one will dispute Mascagni's remarkable gift as an "ad" writer.

London Truth says: "It is curious how the example of Mme. Patti influences her operatic contemporaries. La Diva has Craig-y-nos and her private theater. Therefore De Reszke, Minnie Hauck, Paderewski and drinking much. He was in the affecand Marie Roze have castles, while Mme. Pauline Lucca and M. Jean have private opera houses. Mme. Calve is more original, for she is content with a farm, where, in the interludes of her operatic triumphs, she milks the cows and collects the eggs. and invites the convalescents from the neighboring convent infirmary to share her pastoral luxuries."

The music for this evening's service at the Central-avenue M. E. Church is by the Morris were found 300 copies of his new choir composed of Miss Gable, so-"Personal Reminiscences," a book long prano: Miss McMillan, alto; Mr. Bussey, tenor, and Mr. Fleming, bass, and chorus, the numbers to be given including Sparks's the porter to his section. "Say," said he, "Te Deum in D," "Softly Fades the Twilight Ray," "Oh, How Amiable" (Barnby), "Sweet Sabbath Eve" (Giffe), and "Te ners or I shall not be able to appear beyoung lady in the cast of Mrs. Craigie's new play, "The Ambassador," as "a new Smith, and "Ave Maria" (Gounod), by Miss goes too fast around the corners. It joits adagia movement from the D minor Bach concerto by Mr. and Mrs. Bert Neuland Pierce and Haydn's violin, cello and organ "Trio" by Miss Lucile Billingsly, Mr. Ole Saylor and Mrs. Barry.

Why is it that violinists saw away for dear life for an hour or so before the beginning of a concert? At a recent recital scratchy scrape on the "G" string to the hiccoughy last harmonic, were heard issuing from a small room adjoining the auditorium. Suppose singers, readers or a trombone player, for instance, were to practice within earshot of an audience, how quickly they would be ridiculed into silence. There is also a serious side to it. Nothing appeals like novelty. The ear, accustomed to fiddle-sounds before the programme begins, is already sated, and the player has lost the charm of freshness and the piquancy of a first hearing. Soloists, however, are not the only offenders. The-The New York Dramatic Mirror in its ater and other orchestra violinists have the same unmannerly habit.

Carl Riedelsberger will give another violin lecture-recital in this city upon the completion of his tour through Ohio and the Southern States. As he goes as far South as Texas the recital will in all probability not be given until the first week in April. As before, it will be given under the management of Mr. Bert Neuland Pierce. An interesting programme is being prepared that includes Schumann's quartet for piano, violin, viola and 'cello, the parts to be taken, respectively, by Messrs. Guy Bevier Williams, Hugh McGibeny, Carl Riedelsberger and Adolph Schellschmidt. Owing to the instructive feature of these recitals special inducements will be offered the music pupils of this city. While the place for the concert has not been decided upon it will probably be given in the large auditorium of the German House.

"There never was and is not now a standard orchestra" is the heading of an article in the Saturday Review. After reviewing the work from its inception, its development by Mozart, Haydn, and later by Weber, Wagner and Berlioz, to the present effort at alteration by Fritz Delius and Richard Strauss, the writer suggests: "A complete orchestra should include a flute group-a treble, alto, tenor and bass flute. the complete oboe group that the best bands have at present, a complete clarinet group, first and second clarinets, tenor clarinet, bass and double-bass clarinet, and so on through the orchestra. One of the most important things would be a complete string group. We want a true tenor, running down to the G beneath the tenor C; the violas would then play a true alto part in their best register. We want also the six-stringed double-bass with frets to avoid the present sudden disappearances of the bass part. When these things are done we shall be on the way to getting an orchestra worth writing for."

The monthly song service at the Temple | Wednesday, March 7. The club will be assisted by Mr. Hugh McGibeney, violinist; Mrs. W. F. Schelke, soprano; Mr. Frank Taylor, baritone; the Philharmonic string Messrs. J. Russell Powell and Edward quartet, composed of Hugh McGibeney, second violin; Rudolph Koster, viola, and Adolph Schellschmidt, 'cello, and Mr. Charles F. Hansen, who will give his humorous sketches on the organ, a novelty der, including: "Sailors' Song" (Mosenthal), "Evening" and "Laughing" (Abt), "Clover Blossoms Kiss Her Feet" (Hawley), "Woodland Roses" (Mair), "In Love She Fell" (Lynes), "If I But Knew" (Smith), and, by request, "Paul Revere's Ride" (Buck.) The string quartet will play Haydn's andante and variations on the "Austrian National Hymn." Mrs. Schelke, Mr. Taylor and Mr. McGibeney will give, respectively, "My Noble Knights" (Meyerbeer, "The Sword of Ferrara" (Bullard), and "Rhapsody Hongroise" (Hauser.)

> Thursday, March 1, is the ninetieth anniversary of the birth of Frederic-Francois Chopin. Though he only lived thirty-nine years these must have been busy ones. At the age of nineteen he made his debut as a planist in Vienna. He there produced one of his first compositions, the "Don Giovanni Fantasia," which excited the wondering enthusiasm of Robert Schumann. The individuality and style of Chopin's works were not the result of gradual development, but were characterized from first to last by a most melancholy nature, usually attributed to his Polish or Slavonic nationality. While a high-strung, passionate nature such as Chopin possessed could only express itself in short forms of music, these scintillate with a refined restlessness contagious in the extreme. His many valses, mazourkas and polonaises, are fanciful creations, dances in name only, but are such exquisite gems of construction that they form a type of compositions that will forever stand alone. Chopin is perhaps best known by his nocturnes. The favorite with most musicians is the Opus 37, No. 2. This work begins with a simple barcarele melody, but before the tenth measure is reached he has turned a complete harmonic somersault, and these unusual changes of key continue throughout the composition, emblematic, some think, of the composer's short, sad life. One whose nerves are unusually sensitive cannot help being swayed by this work. A well-known young musician of this city was almost undone by overmuch Chopin study, and it was several years before he could resume his music studies. Chopin's works cannot be played by amateurs, because, to give them correctly, presupposes a knowledge of harmony, without which, leaving technical difficulties aside, an intelligent rendition is impossible. His creations are for the virtuoso, in whose repertoire they will live because of their inherent virility and sterling originality, and also because of their extreme erraticism. Vladimir De Pachmann, the most noted Chopin interpreter living, will celebrate the composer's anniversary by giving an entire Chopin programme at his recital at Mendelssohn Hall, New York, Thursday evening. Unlike any of the other great foreign

artists who have visited this country for the first time, Mark Hambourg, the phenomenal young Slav planist, who will appear in this city at the German House on Tuesday, March 6, at the Amphion Club's concert, prefers to travel alone rather than be accompanied by an agent. As his knowledge of English is very slight and his acquaintance with American customs and manners still slighter, he naturally has many amusing experiences, which he accepts not only with the calmness of a philosopher, but with humorous appreciation. The following anecdotes are amusing instances, and they are said to be bona fide occurrences: The other night after one of his concerts he went into the office of the hotel and was waiting at the desk for the clerk to give him his key when he was addressed by a youth who had been regarding him closely. The stranger had evidently been dining well tionate stage, and, placing his arm around Hambourg's confidentially, "Say, kid, ain't you some kind of an artist?" "Oh, I don't know," said Hambourg, modestly; "why?" "I know you are an artist; you look it. I'm an artist myself. I play the banjo, and I raise ----, too." "Well," said Mark, "I just play the piano, but I don't raise anything-unless it's the limit, occasionally, in a friendly game of draw." One of Hambourg's early experiences on an American railroad was on a sleeping car over a rough stretch of road full of curves and windings, and the car's unsteady motion made walking a hazardous task and sleeping an impossibility. He summoned ners or I shall not be able to appear beme all to pieces. I am Mark Hambourg, the pianist, and I must play to-morrow. Tell the conductor all I say, and waste no time." The player crep back to his section and the porter returned to his boots,

mand had been obeyed. God's Kin.

There is no summit you may not attain.

No purpose which you may not yet achieve,
If you will wait serenely, and believe
Each seeming loss is but a step to'rd gain. Between the mountain tops lie vale and plain; Let nothing make you question, doubt or Give only good, and good alone receive; And as you welcome joy, so welcome pain.

whistling, meantime, an unclassical, rag-

time air, and the incident, so far as he

was concerned, was dropped; but it so

happened that within five minutes the train

slowed up at a junction, where it waited

two hours for a Southern conection, and

in the stillness of the night the planist

composed himself to slumber with a pleas-

ant smile resting upon his face. His com-

That which you most desire awaits your word;
Throw wide the door and bid it enter in.
Speak, and the strong yibrations shall be stirred;
Speak, and above earth's loud, unmeaning din
Your silent declarations shall be heard. All things are possible to God's own kin. -Ella Wheeler Wilcox, in the February Woman's Home Companion.

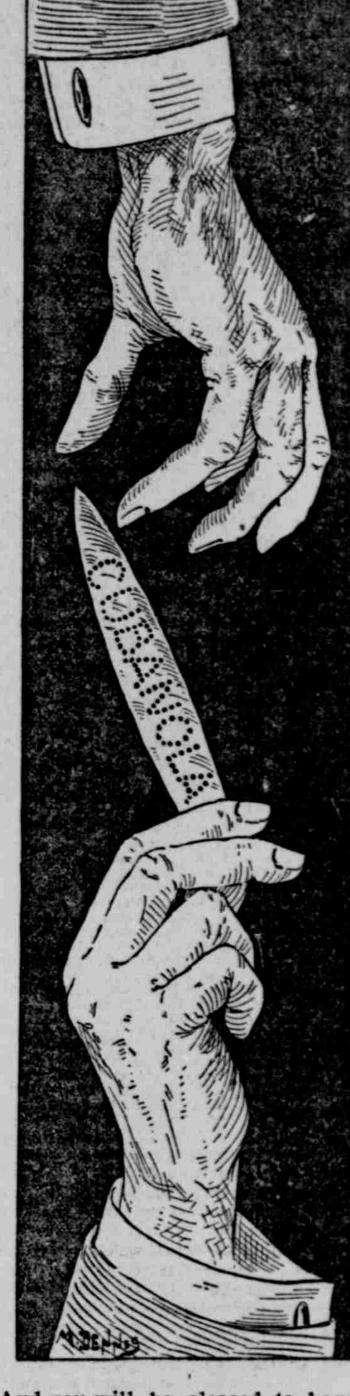
The Years.

Athwart the silence of our dreams, Their memories fail like fitful gleams rom some dim flickering star That hangs afar. nd then the present's glare and fret, nut swiftly in between, but yet Hid in its transient skies, The tireless eyes endless years look, nor forget. Alice Katherine Fallows, in Ainslee's Maga-

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